

Monolithic Compiler Experiments Using C++ Expression Templates*

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MIT Lincoln Laboratory

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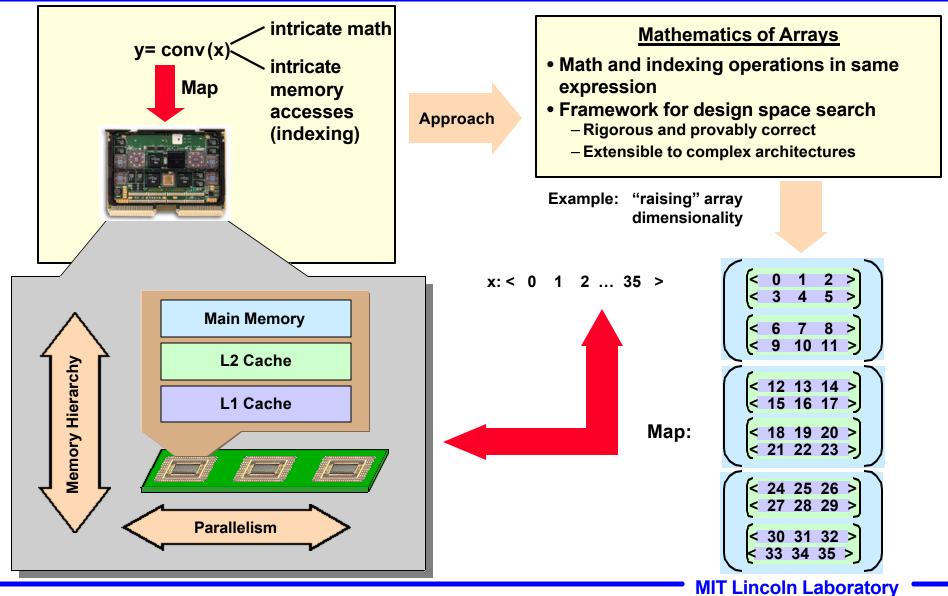


Outline

- Overview
 - Motivation
 - The Psi Calculus
 - Expression Templates
 - Implementing the Psi Calculus with Expression Templates
 - Experiments
 - Future Work and Conclusions



Motivation: The Mapping Problem





Basic Idea

- Expression Templates
 - Efficient high-level container operations
 - C++

Implementation

- Psi Calculus
 - Array operations that compose efficiently
 - Minimum number of memory reads/writes

Theory

Benefits

- Theory based
- High level API
- Efficient

PETE
Style
Array
Operations

Combining Expression Templates and Psi Calculus yields an optimal implementation of array operations



Psi Calculus¹ Key Concepts

Denotational Normal Form (DNF):

- Minimum number of memory reads/writes for a given array expression
- Independent of data storage order

Operational Normal Form (ONF):

- Like DNF, but takes data storage into account
- For 1-d expressions, consists of one or more loops of the form:
 - $x[i]=y[stride*i+offset], l \square i < u$
- Easily translated into an efficient implementation
- Psi Calculus rules are applied mechanically to produce the DNF, which is optimal in terms of memory accesses
- The Gamma function is applied to the DNF to produce the ONF, which is easily translated to an efficient implementation

Gamma function: Specifies data storage order



Some Psi Calculus Operations

Operations	Arguments	Definition
take	Vector A, int N	Forms a Vector of the first N elements of A
drop	Vector A, int N	Forms a Vector of the last (A.size-N) elements of A
rotate	Vector A, int N	Forms a Vector of the last N elements of A concatenated to the other elements of A
cat	Vector A, Vector B	Forms a Vector that is the concatenation of A and B
unaryOmega	Operation Op, dimension D, Array A	Applies unary operator Op to D-dimensional components of A (like a for all loop)
binaryOmega	Operation Op, Dimension Adim. Array A, Dimension Bdim, Array B	Applies binary operator Op to Adim-dimensional components of A and Bdim-dimensional components of B (like a for all loop)
reshape	Vector A, Vector B	Reshapes B into an array having A.size dimensions, where the length in each dimension is given by the corresponding element of A
iota	int N	Forms a vector of size N, containing values 0 N-1
= index perm	nutation = operators	= restructuring = index generation

= index permutation = operators = restructuring = index generation



Convolution: Psi Calculus Decomposition

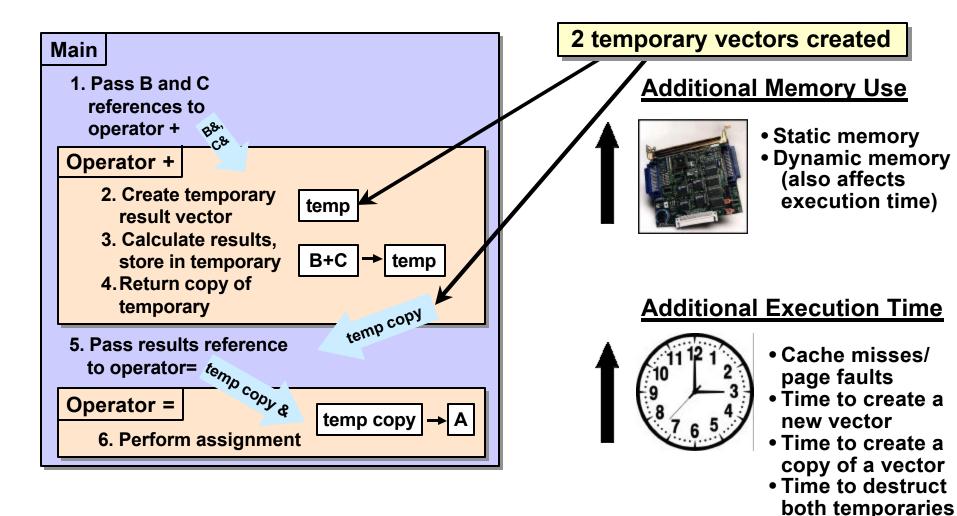
Definition of y=conv(h,x)	y[n]= $\sum_{k=0}^{M-1} h[k]x'[n-k]$ where x has N elements, h has M elements, $0 \square n < N + M - 1$, and x' is x padded by $M - 1$ zeros on either end		
	Algorithm step	Psi Calculus	
Algorithm	Initial step	x= < 1 2 3 4 > h= < 5 6 7 >	x= < 1 2 3 4 > h= < 5 6 7 >
and Psi Calculus Decomposition	Form x'	x'=cat(reshape(<k-1>, <0>), cat(x, reshape(<k-1>,<0>)))=</k-1></k-1>	x'= < 0 0 1 4 0 0 >
	rotate x' (N+M-1) times	x' _{rot} =binaryOmega(rotate,0,iota(N+M-1), 1 x')	x' rot = <0012> <1234>
	take the "interesting" part of x' _{rot}	x' _{final} =binaryOmega(take,0,reshape(<n+m-1>,<m>),1,x'_{rot})</m></n+m-1>	x' final = <001 > <012 > <123 >
	multiply	Prod=binaryOmega (*,1, h,1,x' _{final})	<0 0 7 > Prod= <0 6 14 > <5 12 21 >
	sum	Y=unaryOmega (sum, 1, Prod)	Υ= < 7 20 38 >

Psi Calculus reduces this to DNF with minimum memory accesses



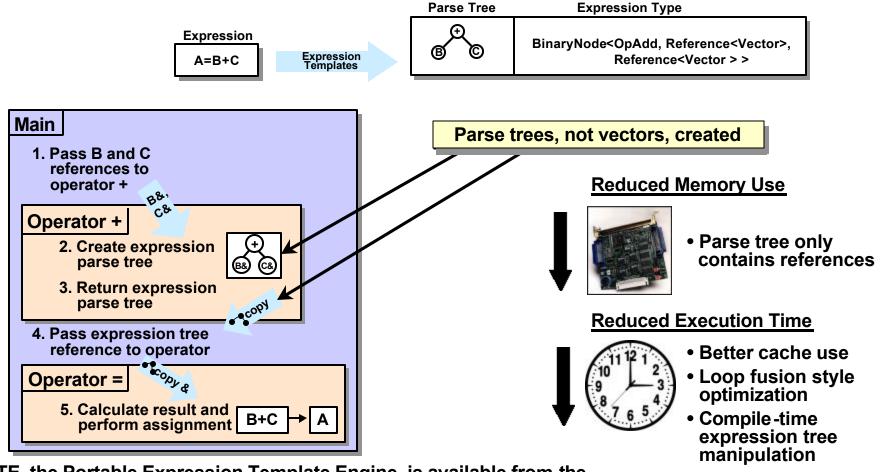
Typical C++ Operator Overloading

Example: A=B+C vector add





C++ Expression Templates and PETE



- PETE, the Portable Expression Template Engine, is available from the Advanced Computing Laboratory at Los Alamos National Laboratory
- PETE provides:
 - Expression template capability
 - Facilities to help navigate and evaluating parse trees

PETE: http://www.acl.lanl.gov/pete



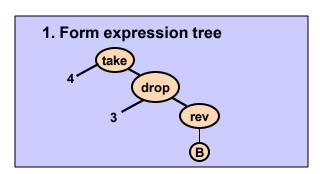
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Example: A=take(4,drop(3,rev(B)))

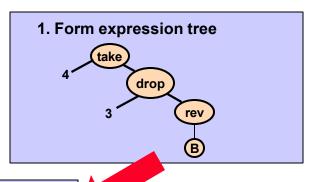
B=<1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10> A=<7 6 5 4>





Example: A=take(4,drop(3,rev(B)))

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Size info

2. Add size information

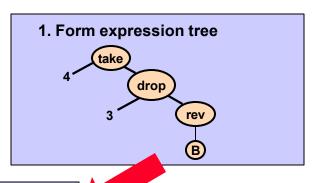
size=10 B



Example:

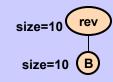
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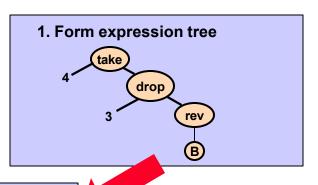




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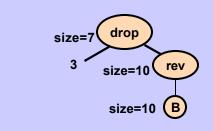
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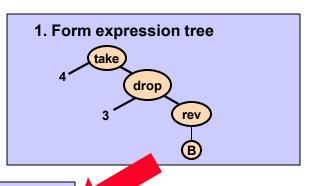


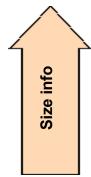


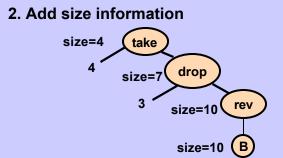
Example:

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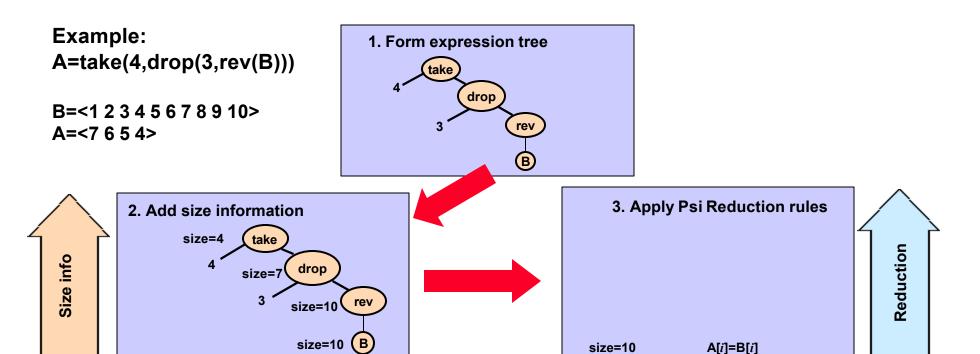
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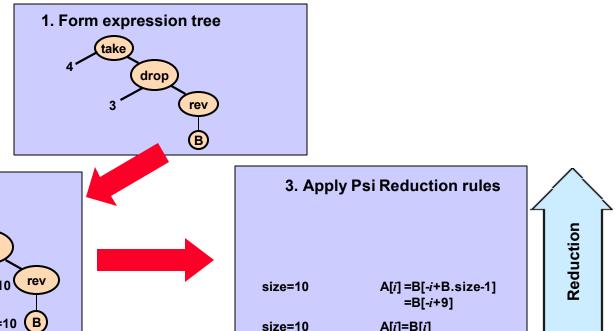


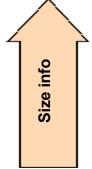


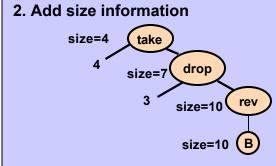




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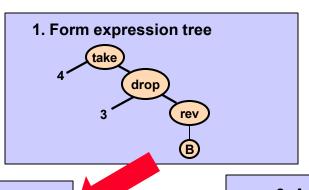




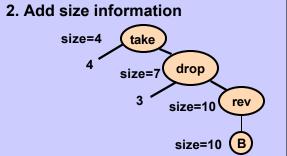




B=<1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10> A=<7 6 5 4>



Size info





 size=7
 A[i] = B[-(i+3)+9]

 =B[-i+6]

 size=10
 A[i] = B[-i+B.size-1]

 =B[-i+9]

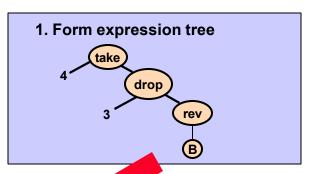
 size=10
 A[i] = B[i]

Reduction



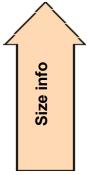


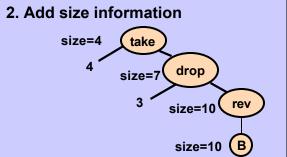
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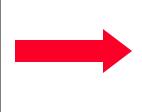


Recall: Psi Reduction for 1-d arrays always yields one or more expressions of the form: x[i]=y[stride*i+ offset]

 $l \square i < u$







• • •		
size=4	A[i]=B[-i+6]	
size=7	A[i] = B[-(i+3) - B[-i+6]	+9]
size=10	A[i] =B[-i+B.s =B[-i+9]	ize-1]
size=10	A[i]=B[i]	

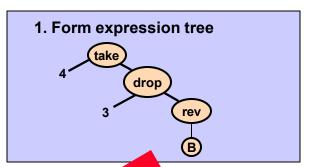
3. Apply Psi Reduction rules

Reduction



Example: A=take(4,drop(3,rev(B)))

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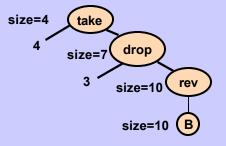


Recall:

Psi Reduction for 1-d arrays always yields one or more expressions of the form:
x[i]=y[stride*i+ offset]
l □ i < u



2. Add size information



3. Apply Psi Reduction rules

size=4	A[i]=B[-i+6]
size=7	A[i] = B[-(i+3)+9] = $B[-i+6]$
size=10	A[i] =B[-i+B.size-1] =B[-i+9]
size=10	A[i]=B[i]

Reduction

4. Rewrite as sub-expressions with iterators at the leaves, and loop bounds information at the root

size=4

iterator: offset=6 stride=-1

- Iterators used for efficiency, rather than recalculating indices for each *i*
- One "for" loop to evaluate each sub-expression



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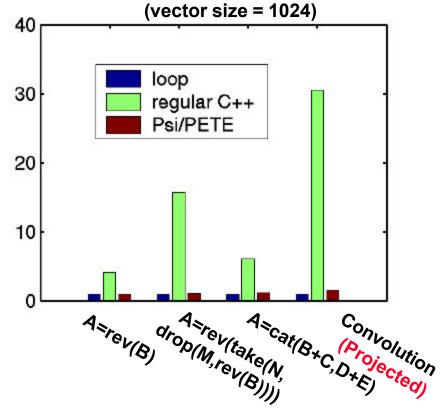


Experiments

Results

- Loop implementation achieves good performance, but is problem specific and low level
- Traditional C++ operator implementation is general and high level, but performs poorly when composing many operations
- PETE/Psi array operators
 perform almost as well as the
 loop implementation, compose
 well, are general, and are high
 level





Test ability to compose operations



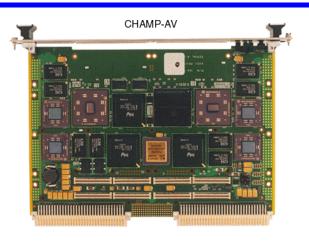
Experimental Platform and Method

Hardware

- DY4 CHAMP-AV Board
 - Contains 4 MPC7400's and 1 MPC 8420
- MPC7400 (G4)
 - 450 MHz
 - 32 KB L1 data cache
 - 2 MB L2 cache
 - 64 MB memory/processor

Software

- VxWorks 5.2
 - Real-time OS
- GCC 2.95.4 (non-official release)
 - GCC 2.95.3 with patches for VxWorks
 - Optimization flags:
 - -O3 -funroll-loops -fstrict-aliasing

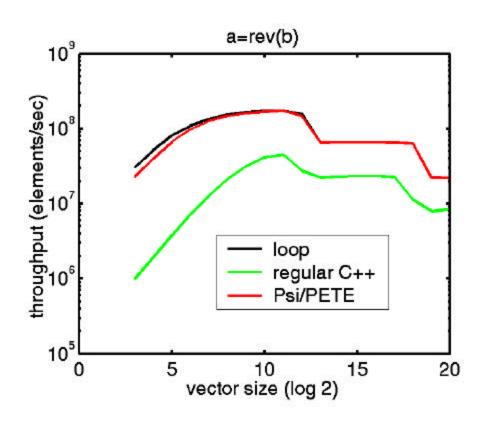


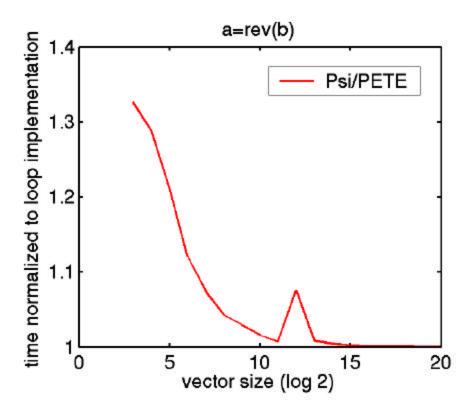
Method

- Run many iterations, report average, minimum, maximum time
 - From 10,000,000 iterations for small data sizes, to 1000 for large data sizes
- All approaches run on same data
- Only average times shown here
- Only one G4 processor used
- Use of the VxWorks OS resulted in very low variability in timing
- High degree of confidence in results



Experiment 1: A=rev(B)

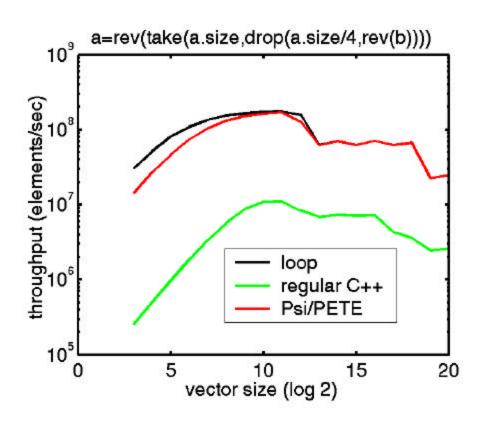


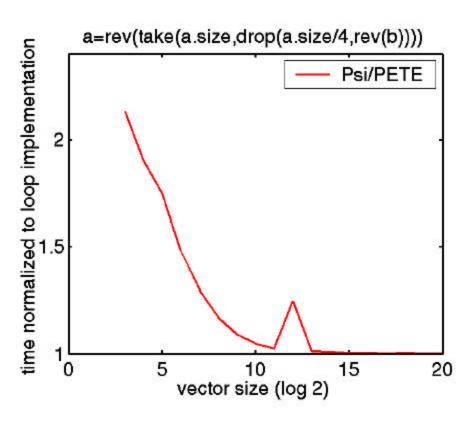


- PETE/Psi implementation performs nearly as well as hand coded loop, and much better than regular C++ implementation
- Some overhead associated with expression tree manipulation



Experiment 2: a=rev(take(N,drop(M,rev(b)))

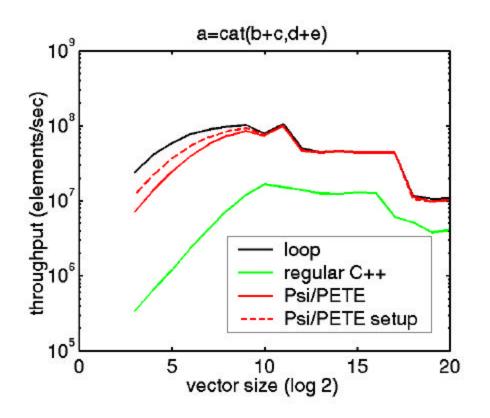


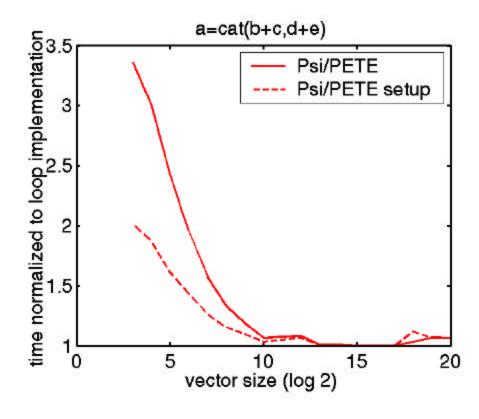


- Larger gap between regular C++ performance and performance of other implementations → regular C++ operators do not compose efficiently
- Larger overhead associated with expression-tree manipulation due to more complex expression



Experiment 3: a=cat(b+c, d+e)





- Still larger overhead associated with tree manipulation due to cat()
- Overhead can be mitigated by "setup" step prior to assignment



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Future Work

- Multiple Dimensions: Extend this work to N-dimensional arrays (N is any non-negative integer)
- Parallelism: Explore dimension lifting to exploit multiple processors
- Memory Hierarchy: Explore dimension lifting to exploit levels of memory
- Mechanize Index Decomposition: Currently a time consuming process done by hand
- Program Block Optimizations: PETE-style optimizations across statements to eliminate unnecessary temporaries



Conclusions

- Psi calculus provides rules to reduce array expressions to the minimum of number of reads and writes
- Expression templates provide the ability to perform compiler preprocessor-style optimizations (expression tree manipulation)
- Combining Psi calculus with expression templates results in array operators that
 - Compose efficiently
 - Are high performance
 - Are high level
- The C++ template mechanism can be applied to a wide variety of problems (e.g. tree traversal ala PETE, graph traversal, list traversal) to gain run-time speedup at the expense of compile time/space